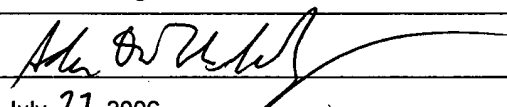
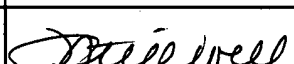


TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	10/549,445
		Filing Date	September 14, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Shawn DeFrees
		Art Unit	1623
		Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	040853-01-5133-US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (See Remarks) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Restriction Requirement <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return postcard •
Remarks: The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 50-0310.		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual	Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Ada O. Wong Reg. No. 55,740
Signature	
Date	July 21, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Judi Stillwell		
Signature		Date	July 20, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Shawn DeFrees

Application No.: 10/549,445

Filed: September 14, 2005

Int'l. Application No.: PCT/US2004/07931

Filed: March 15, 2004

For: BRANCHED WATER-SOLUBLE
POLYMERS AND THEIR CONJUGATES

Customer No.: 43850

Confirmation No.: 1342

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1623

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.